THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
1800

Class DA 957
Book D8

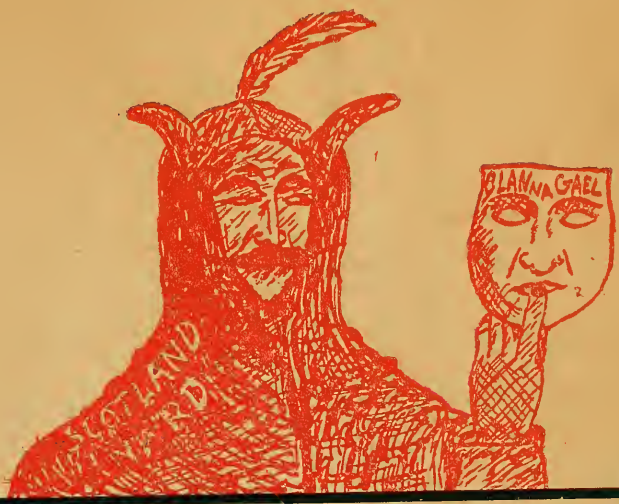
Author

Title

Imprint

16—30290-1 GPO

JAN 14 1901



THE CLOVEN FOOT

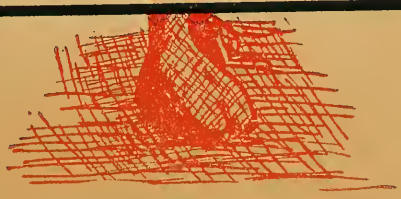
SHOWING
THE MANIPULATIONS
OF THE

CLAN-NA-GAEL

BY THE

ENGLISH SECRET SERVICE

PRICE 15 CENTS



THE

CLOVEN FOOT

SHOWING THE MANIPULATIONS OF THE CLAN-NA-GAEL AND OTHER IRISH ORGANIZATIONS BY SCOTLAND YARD, THE SECRET SERVICE BUREAU OF ENGLAND

Daniel Dwyer.

PUBLISHED BY
THE SARSFIELD PUBLISHING COMPANY
145 HIGH ST., BOSTON, MASS.

Library of Congress
Two Copies Received
JAN 14 1901
Copyright entry
Dec. 19, 1900
No. a 30665
SECOND COPY

D 4957
.D 8

Copyrighted A. D. 1900
By The Sarsfield Publishing Company
Boston, Mass.

Daniel Dwyer
Boston, Mass.

PREFACE

It is with feelings of regret and pleasure that the writer of this pamphlet has undertaken it; regret that he has to admit and prove that the Irish revolutionary movement cannot be carried on without the surveillance of the British government, and pleasure because he hopes it may aid in the baffling of the English agents whose business in the revolutionary movement in this country, as well as elsewhere, is to render ineffective the efforts of sincere men, either in the secret or open societies in the true interest of Ireland. Such British agents live and grow fat on the strength of the Irish revolutionary sentiment. They get fat salaries from Scotland Yard—the head detective bureau of England—and needless to say, when they have a chance to bleed the revolutionary treasury, it doesn't take long to cause the funds to disappear. They organize such movements, because they live on them, and they keep Englishmen in terror of the dark and bloody plots (?) hatched for the wholesale destruction of human lives (?). In Ireland not alone has a perfect system of espionage been in vogue, during, and since, the '98 movement, but the government agents have been organizers, so that when they desired they could arrest at a moment's notice every man in the country who was a menace to British authority.

The writer would not condemn physical force for the freedom of Ireland, were there any prospect of success. To him that success seems impossible for many reasons, and the reasons will appear in the following pages. Criticisms by English agents and by persons hypnotized by British spies is expected, but criticism from the honest Irish-American press will be welcomed. The writer will be glad to be set aright in any mistake he may possibly have fallen into, and he assures the reader that he writes this pamphlet in an honest spirit in the aid of a good cause, that of Ireland.

It always seems strange that such a naturally honest and honorable people as the Irish should have such a record for "informers," but to the casual observer it must be evident that such "informers" always have been English agents from the start. This alone explains the apparent contradiction. It wasn't decided to write this pamphlet until the writer found it impossible to publish a synopsis of the facts in any newspaper or magazine, though their space was open to him for any other subject.

One magazine manager claimed that his office would be blown up by British agents did he publish it, and while others admitted the truths contained therein, they didn't think it expedient to publish them. What, then was to be done, when more than one sterling Irish Nationalist—erstwhile revolutionists—have declared that it is a duty to publish the facts? Nothing but the publication as it appears before you. He has been warned that the enemy he has attacked is powerful, resourceful and vindictive: that there are good grounds for believing that the assassinations of D'Arcy McGee, Major McWilliams, Dr. Cronin, and the "disappearance" of MacKay Lomasney, could be traced to agents of the British government primarily, but fear has no right to enter the domain of duty. The writer claims that the Clan-na-Gael is being used as an engine of destruction to the Irish cause in every possible way; that all the necessary evidence is at hand to show that its policy, as outlined by the secret executives, has been always deadly opposed to the Irish national cause; that Fenianism was victimized by the betrayers; that the Clan was and is, and that the history of Le Caron (Thomas Beach) proves that, and how easily it can be done. The Clan's policy as shown in this book has always been in line with the bitter Tory party of England, the Orangemen and the Irish landlords, so far as the secret executive could make it.

Caustic and wilful misinterpretation of the writer's motives may be urged. This is to be expected. He thoroughly appreciates the gravity of the charge made against the controlling powers of the Clan-na-Gael, and it is for the reader to judge of

his correctness in asserting that the harmless dynamite outrages (?) were the result of Tory political intrigue, and an evidence of Scotland Yard's control of the Clan executives.

Let the reader judge from the facts.

THE AUTHOR.

THE CLOVEN FOOT

Evidence of English Control of the Clan-na-Gael.

The writer is induced to pen the following facts for the reason that he knows there are many earnest Irishmen, who, despairing of the potency of parliamentary methods to meet the demands of the Irish people in their efforts to obtain self-government for their native land, have entered the ranks of any revolutionary body which aimed at the physical overthrow of English rule in Ireland, but have not counted the cost in so doing. So long as England depends upon her bayonets to inflict her rule on Ireland, just so long will the most sincere, the most unselfish, and the most devoted Irishmen look upon such organizations as a relief from what they consider a begging policy pursued by Ireland towards a nation, whose hatred of Ireland is implacable, whose determination to humiliate that country increases or decreases with her power or her inability to do so. Hence the physical force party will always remain a factor in Irish affairs, while the present condition of things remains as it is. It needs no demonstration to convince any one that England is well aware of this fierce sentiment against her, and the history of all such movements, in Ireland especially, proves that England not alone had her spies by the hundreds in such secret organizations, but that they actually invaded peaceable localities and organized the unsuspecting young men of those districts, only to bring them to the gallows, or the jail for life.

Such were Corrydon, Massey, McDermott, Talbot et al.; and when we consider how numerous such men were, whose dark deeds have come to the surface, it takes little thought to come to the conclusion that many, aye, many, there were who lived and died in the odor of Irish national sanctity, who were in reality

nothing more nor less than paid agents of the British government.

The British goverment has always aimed, not alone to be enlightened as to every detail of such movements, but to actually control their destinies. Such has been shown as a positive fact in all secret Irish revolutionary bodies, and is admitted by all candid thinkers on the subject. Indeed when we come to consider the importance such steps would be to England, her immense outlay of secret service funds and the ease with which she could send her paid emissaries into the Irish ranks, it seems strange that the honest men of the rank and file could not perceive the futility of keeping any of their doings secret from England, and the danger of their movement being steered antagonistic to the real welfare of Ireland. The open movements alone were what England dreaded. While her laws banned the secret organizations, she encouraged them to the extent of her power, in the belief that she gathered into her net the crystalized hatred of England that existed among the Irish race and kept the body representing it under her thumb, to be treated how and when she pleased. But England's spy system was not confined to Ireland. It encircled and encircles the globe; especially where the radical Irish sentiment is found. Nothing would please England better than that Irishmen should be unaware of the presence of her spies and paid agents among them, for then the hirelings' work can be effectively done, and therefore when the boast is widely sounded that no British spies are in this movement or that, it is the part of prudence to be cautious, to even doubt the discretion of those who are so anxious to make such statements.

The Fenian Brotherhood as it existed in the United States was not a secret or oath-bound society and was therefore not as liable to be controlled by English agents as an oath-bound body whose power and policy were directed by a few in the dark, and yet it was victimized by them, its military organizer being the British spy, Le Caron (Thomas Beach), who, though at times suspected by watchful men in the movement, always succeeded in making

himself a martyr, and in getting the "suspicious" persons thoroughly disliked. Le Caron drew a revolver on one of the most troublesome of these men—Major McWilliams—at one time in New York, who eventually was shot dead in the south. (Le Caron's Autobiography, page 88.) Was it a coincidence?

After the disruption of the Fenian organization the Clan-na-Gael became the one great revolutionary Mecca of honest Irish radicalism.

DID FREE MASONS START THE CLAN?

A peculiar feature of the Clan-na-Gael is admitted by Le Caron, and though coming from him, is true nevertheless. On page 81 of his "Autobiography" he says: "The ritual and forms of initiation (of the Clan-na-Gael) were framed entirely upon the Masonic precedent, and to the vast majority of the members of the Clan the statement will come, no doubt as a great surprise, that the much vaunted secret forms of the Masonic order need be secret to them no longer, inasmuch as that when being admitted to a Clan-na-Gael club, they are going through the same forms and ceremonies as attached themselves to that great source of mystery and wonderment in the eyes of the non-elect, the Masonic Brotherhood. I have often laughed to myself at the surprise shown by some Masons on the occasion of their initiation to Clan-na-Gael clubs—for there are Masons in the Clan—at being brought once more into contact with the familiar procedure. * * * In one case, that of the Mason, nothing very strange happens or is committed to his secrecy, while in the other the poor confiding Irishman is simply intended to play the part of dupe, to move and subscribe to order, but to be trusted in no single regard, until by jobbery or manipulation he works his way to the higher ranks of the organization." To all who are aware of England's untiring efforts to organize and control the Irish revolutionists at home and abroad, it will pay to study thoughtfully the fact that Le Caron only admits a well known fact in the above

assertion regarding the Masonic Ritual in the Clan, and therefore it may well be asked: "Were the originators of the Clan composed of that class of Irishmen who in later days were the only physical force party among them, viz., Irish Catholics?"

Patriotic Protestants were hardly in evidence in such bodies, and we may well reason that the Masons of Scotland Yard were the real ones to introduce their forms of ritual of whose power they knew so much. It can hardly be said that genuine Irish patriotic Masons started the Clan, but that Masonic influence was at work at the start is pretty evident, and in the reasonable belief that other than patriotic Irish impulses were at work at the inception of the Clan, we can easily place a construction on Le Caron's words other than he intended, and probably the true one, when he says, "The poor confiding Irishman is simply intended to play the part of a dupe to move and subscribe to order."

That they have "moved" and "subscribed" to order has been evident in the cases of Dr. Gallagher, Whitehead, Featherstone and others. These were just the men that England wanted on the other side, and as they could not be extradited the feasible way of getting them into the lion's jaw was to send them over. Surely they "moved to order." (Le Caron admits that he made Alexander Sullivan his dupe for years.)

It may be asked if England's agents were so many as would naturally be surmised, why is her work not more in evidence? And to the query may be answered that Scotland Yard people know their business well, and it will take the closest perception to see the cloven foot. A little historical retrospection may help us.

The open Land League was a terror to England and the Orange party in Ireland. Had the Land League only affiliated with the Clan it would have become at once the easy prey of English power. Such affiliation would have at once placed under arrest, and hung or jailed for life, every valuable man in Ireland, and completely broken up that great movement started by Michael Davitt. It is well known that during the victorious days

of the Land League the most untiring energy was displayed by the Clan-na-Gael leaders on this side of the water to form an amalgamation of the two bodies. What possible advantage this policy would be to the Irish cause no sane honest man can say; but the aggressiveness of the Clan-na-Gael leaders was so great, and the leaders in Ireland were so wary, that feeling seemed to run pretty high. Davitt publicly declared that he was

THREATENED WITH ASSASSINATION

by the Clan, and Clan leaders in New York heaped abuse on Parnell. All this has been published in the American press and it doesn't require a perusal of Le Caron's book to know it. One of the New York Clan leaders was an especial enemy of Parnell and Davitt and showed himself so in public and private. It is a peculiar fact that at the time Parnell sued the London Times the especial confidant of this man was Le Caron, who during the trial went over to testify against Parnell, in the effort to prove the Clan-na-Gael and the Land League were one and the same organization virtually, thereby attempting to prove the charges of the Times.

So powerful was the energy of the Clan directed towards the amalgamation of the two bodies—the Clan-na-Gael and the Land League—that it was an open secret on this side that all local camps of the Clan were requested from headquarters to become Land League branches and send delegates to the National Conventions in the United States. The keen perceptions of the Irish leaders at home made them careful, and having avoided the danger of amalgamation, the next best thing was done by the Clan leaders in the attempt to control the Land League. Le Caron admits it, but to that sinister monster it was a sore disappointment that the unification of the two bodies never took place. But, if by the "obstinacy" of the men in Ireland no incriminating evidence could be had, the controlling power of the Clan was evidently

DETERMINED TO MAKE EVIDENCE,

and so we find among other evidence that in 1886 the secret convention of the Clan passed the following: "Resolved, That we maintain the same relations in the future to open societies working for the same purpose as ourselves that we have in the past." This was the best evidence Le Caron could offer to sustain the charge of amalgamation, but his own book proves that resolve a lie. The relations between the Clan and the open societies was always of a bitter kind on the Clan's side, on account of the refusal of the Constitutional leaders to abide the Clan leaders' demands. And so the last desperate card was played in the virtual assertion that the Clan and the Land League were allied and working for the same object. What a morsel this was for Le Caron, and how he speaks of its importance (page 83)! What extreme kindness to volunteer the statement that as they always had been working so harmoniously for the same object, so they should in future! Here was all the chance that could be had to manufacture evidence against the constitutional leader, and

AT THE PROPER TIME IT WAS USED BY LE CARON.

In support of the belief that the directors of the Clan had another end in view than the advancement of Ireland's cause, I will show the grounds taken from Le Caron's own writing, and turn his own weapon on his accomplices and on himself. I will draw attention to the untiring and desperate efforts of the Clan leaders, some no doubt under the influence of the Le Carons, to get control of the constitutional movement on this side of the water, a movement allied to the Land League of Ireland. Had they been anxious solely for the promotion of the movement that was causing so much embarrassment to the English government, they should have approved of a policy that had enlisted in the fight the vast numbers that had entered the ranks of the constitutional

army, and who would never join a secret society. They should have encouraged a policy which had caught up in its enthusiasm the larger numbers of the Irish race, who believed in the efficacy of a milder policy and who were generously pouring into the treasury the "sinews of war." More especially should this have been the course of the Clan-na-Gael directors, as the constitutional methods were baffling Ireland's enemies until they were almost in despair; but the Clan schemed to get control of the movement and drive out of the fight the conservative wing of the great army that should have been fostered and encouraged. When this last happened the whole Home Rule movement on this side melted away, and there remained only the physical force party represented by the Clan-na-Gael. Could the enemies of Ireland have desired anything better? The writer has expressed his belief in the sincerity of the great bulk of the Clan-na-Gael, and does not desire to be understood as in any way casting discredit on the vast majority of the men in it. He asserts that every incident goes to show that

SCOTLAND YARD HAS RULED ITS POLICY

from the start, and through the betrayers' work good men's lives —and probably souls—have been wrecked and others will again, if they are not more discerning.

Since the commencement of this book the writer has interviewed all the old-time Irish Nationalists of his acquaintance and has found an unanimity of opinion on his side of the question. Facts and statements made by those men have borne out the justice of his position, and among the statements made was one coming from an ex-official of the Clan-na-Gael—a Senior Guardian—which needs no elucidation, as follows: A call came to his "camp" from the executive for men who would be ready at a moment's notice for war duty. It was specified that the name, age, employment and personal description, etc., etc., should be given of each volunteer. A large number immediately volun-

teered and sent on the required names and descriptions. No "war call" came and the official, when later in New York he mentioned it to a prominent Irishman, was surprised to hear this exclamation coming from his friend: "Didn't you have sense enough to know that this list was not needed by honest clansmen, but by

OFFICIALS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT?"

Soon after, this man left the Clan. The above statement comes from the lips of an honest man. Scotland Yard wanted to know the men in the Clan who meant business. Now for an interesting statement:

THE CATALPA RESCUE. (?)

In the year 1876 the world was startled by the announcement that six Irish political prisoners had escaped from Western Australia, and close on the heels of the news came the announcement from New York that the Clan-na-Gael did it. For some years previously the Clan had been the one great Irish revolutionary body in the country, and the escape of these men was heralded as a proof that there was

NOT A SINGLE SPY IN THE ENTIRE BODY

of the Clan-na-Gael, for the plans to rescue were known to all the members a full year before the undertaking, as subscriptions were asked for. In reading over the speeches made by the Clan leaders of the time, on the occasion of celebrating the escape (?) one cannot help being struck with the emphasis laid on their assertions that not an English spy was in the ranks of the Clan from New York to California. This news seemed to have been the principal fruit of escape (?). It was dinned into the ears of the audiences and was the one great important fact to be gathered from the story of the rescue (?).

Let us examine into the facts of the case. They can be found in Roche's "Life of O'Reilly," commencing page 156.

For a whole year every member of this Irish revolutionary body containing 5000 men, was made aware of the coming attempt to rescue six Fenian prisoners from the English penal colony of Western Australia. As it was never known that any such Irish organization was neglected by the British government, this open avowal seems strange at the start off, and to any thinking man such broadcast avowal would seem sheer madness, unless the promoters of the scheme, whose names were probably never publicly mentioned in the connection, had some knowledge that the British government would not prevent it.

Speaking bolder, we might say the rash announcement would not have been made unless it was hatched by the paid agents of the British government. On that ground alone can we admit that such publicity was not insanity. Even outside the ranks of the Clan the coming exploit was heralded, and many can come forward and testify to the fact.

THERE SEEMED TO BE ENTIRE SECURITY,

where there never was security, and certainly something extraordinary was the cause of this unusual proceeding. The writer is now commenting on facts, most of which can be found in the "Life of O'Reilly." The inceptors of the rescue (?) consulted the lamented John Boyle O'Reilly, but such interview would not throw any discredit on his judgment or good name. They then engaged a Yankee whaler from New Bedford, commanded by Capt. Anthony, to do the work. The leader of the expedition passed as a wool merchant in Australia. He got in touch with the governor and did it with the intention of "pulling the wool over the governor's eyes," as he put it.

He is also recorded as being a passenger on the Georgette (the government steamer in the vicinity) with Capt. Anthony, and together they got the soundings of the coast, etc., etc., from the cap-

tain of the steamer. It is a most singular circumstance that when the Georgette afterwards steamed towards the Catalpa on the occasion of the flight of the prisoners and rescuers, this steamer actually intercepted and made a complete circuit of the pursued without once taking notice of them till they were within safe distance of the Catalpa, all in broad daylight. THE GEORGETTE CAME SO NEAR THEM THAT THE MEN ON BOARD HER COULD BE SEEN BY THE REFUGEES.

The writer has no disposition to cast suspicion on the men who undertook this rescue. There were honest men engaged in it. Recorder Goff is undoubtedly an honest man and he was interested in it. We know that the leader himself could have been victimized, as the cleverest men are liable to be. The plot could have been a British one even without his knowledge. He explained the circumstance of their being intercepted and not captured by saying that the crew of the Georgette were so intently watching the Catalpa that they never perceived the small boat, and the writer is willing to accept his statement as being honest.

AGAIN, WHY DID THE GEORGETTE NOT STEAM STRAIGHT TO THE CATALPA INSTEAD OF MAKING A CIRCLE, IF NOT TO GIVE THE REFUGEES A CHANCE TO REACH THE CATALPA?

There were other circumstances, however, that would go far to prove the Catalpa affair a "fake," but the most important of all was a something that happened thirteen years later.

The excitement and world-wide interest that attended that circumstance helped, no doubt, to cause a forgetfulness of its important bearing on the Catalpa rescue (?). It was this:

Parnell's suit against the London Times brought out the fact that for 23 years before this year (1889), Le Caron, the spy, was in the very thick of the centre of energy of the Irish revolutionary movement in this country. He was even at the time he testified against Parnell president or senior guardian of the Clan-na-Gael camp at Braidwood, Ill., and according to his testimony before the Parnell Commission had been a member ever since the second

Fenian invasion of Canada, 1870, when the Clan seems to have been started (see press dispatches, Feb. 9, 1889).

For years before the Catalpa rescue (?) he was one of the radical Irish leaders in all such movements, receiving a large salary from the British and Canadian governments. He therefore knew of the contemplated escape, and if he was not aware that the British government started or sanctioned the plot, 'twas his business to inform them of what he knew. But although so many thousands of Irishmen in the rank and file knew all about this plot a full year before its accomplishment, innocent LE CARON, THE CLAN OFFICIAL, THE PATRIOT AND RADICAL IRISH (?) LEADER, DIDN'T KNOW A THING ABOUT IT ! ! !

It is interesting to note that in the cross-examination of this man he was made to admit that there were others like himself in the Clan for when Sir Charles Russell demanded the incriminating letters from the Americans to be made public, Le Caron said:

"WHAT! WOULD YOU RISK MEN'S LIVES?"

So the betrayers who were still on this side were never exposed. (Feb. 9, 1889). Their names would not be divulged. Had the British government not sanctioned the plot a single spy in the entire body of the Clan-na-Gael could have frustrated it and placed each one of the would-be rescuers under arrest in Australia. This is evident and is the admitted deduction from the one important claim so often harped upon by the originators that "there was not a single spy in the Clan-na-Gael." We see now that at least one spy was there, a spy that knew all and kept himself posted on the most minute details.

THE MOTIVE.

The question will undoubtedly at once be asked what was England's motive in hatching this scheme? In the first place

140 members of the English Parliament had petitioned for the release of those men, for all the arrested leaders had been released (see Pilot, May 27, 1876), and while the government denied the petition, the prisoners were still an eye-sore to them. But the most important point to be gained by England would be to place her agents—the originators of the plot, whoever they were,—in the entire confidence of the honest rank and file so that the agents could continue to control the destinies of the Clan. This was the one vital point for England. Le Caron admits in several places in his autobiography and with a chuckle, how he did charitable, patriotic and radical things to gain control in the Clan and he succeeded. It remains to be seen who were his accomplices; but it cannot be reasonably assumed that he knew how many of those with whom he came in contact were actually working on the same lines as himself (in fact he admits that no secret service agent knew of his detective work but Mr. Anderson, Scotland Yard chief,), and tells how necessary such a system was to him. Scotland Yard uses more discretion than to allow all of its agents to know each other's business. England could have learned many a lesson from the rash indiscretion of honest Irishmen who pursued a happy-go-lucky policy in their poor attempts to conspire. John Boyle O'Reilly admitted at the time that

LE CARON KNEW ALL

that was done by the revolutionists for 25 years previous to the time of his testifying against Parnell. (Boston Herald, Feb. 9, 1889.) But if Le Caron were not aware of the co-operation of other Irish leaders in the United States, his book bears eloquent testimony to the fact that the controlling power of the Clan "moved" the honest Irishmen in it on lines dear to England's interest.

The fierce fight between the constitutional leaders in Ireland and the Clan leaders in the United States on the question of amalgamation, the well know attempts of the Clan to control the

constitutional movement in the States, when the attempts at combination failed, and the treacherous resolutions and circulars prove that.

What a lesson for all sincere Irishmen there is, pondering over the facts as here produced; facts published before, but not placed in a thoughtful manner for the analytical mind.

The writer wishes to caution enthusiastic Irishmen to be watchful, and impress on their minds that no secret Irish revolutionary organization escapes the watchful eyes of scores of British agents, that there are times when a good many lives are jeopardized by those monsters, and to draw attention to the lessons to be learned from those who have been jailed by England in recent years on account of the information supplied through the Irish-English spies. By seriously considering these things many lives may yet be saved and great good may accrue to the Irish cause.

Another lesson to be learned from the statements herein contained, the bulk of which have already been published in the American press of the times, is that

IT IS NO DIFFICULT UNDERTAKING

on the part of England to get her agents initiated into and in control of the Clan-na-Gael. Money is one great lever for advancement in such organization, and a record for radical professions another.

The reader of Le Caron's Autobiography will perceive how he used these two influences to secure a leading position in the Clan and the Fenian movement.

It would be interesting could the writer but name Le Caron's confederates in the Clan. Sir Charles Russell's cross-examination was important in eliciting that suggestive statement concerning their existence. Was it necessary for Le Caron to make such admission? Would he be liable to leave the organization without confederates behind worthy to look after England's interests? Have they since been discovered? Have the honest men in the

Clan—and the bulk are honest—forgotten that they are under the watchful eyes of the British agents at all times? Do they know that every member of the Clan is known as soon as he sets foot on British territory? Why seek such instances as Gallagher et al. at one time, Ivory, years later, even on the fourth of January, 1899, a young man was to be hung in Tipperary for what would be at worst but manslaughter, and in reality would be considered a case of self-defense in any civilized community, but no doubt his friends at Woodbury, Conn., from which place he hailed, were right when they claimed that his real crime was membership in the Clan-na-Gael. He was known as soon as he landed. England thoroughly appreciates the position of controlling every secret Irish revolutionary body, and with the men and money at her command she can easily succeed. After years of experience, the wisdom of the Catholic Church has been evident in prohibiting her people from joining such bodies. Had she not condemned the Fenian organization in Ireland, the country would be simply drenched in the blood of her most patriotic sons. History tells us that a great part of the organizing of that movement there was done by England, when she employed Talbot & Co. to do that work.

And now we will go into details, and show from Le Caron's own book that what he desired done by the Can-na-Gael was done. The reader can find between the lines that Le Caron & Co. were evidently working up the fight against the constitutional movement and that the honest men among the leaders of the Clan fell into line on the question of

THE GREAT TREASON TO IRELAND.

On page 132 he says, speaking of his meeting with Michael Boynton in jail in Ireland: "This meeting with Boynton was full of interest to me. * * * From him in the secrecy of conversation, undisturbed by the presence of a warder or fellow-

prisoner, I learnt that the Land League had placed the Fenian or National cause in a far stronger position than ever in Ireland. Could the Clan-na-Gael only see the national spirit which had been developed all over Ireland, they would never oppose it, he believed."

Here is mentioned the Clan's opposition, which the world knows of already: On leaving Ireland he says, page 133: "I had to see D— and others to report the Irish leader's views to them, and having acquitted myself of all I had to do as a revolutionary envoy, to find out as much as possible of the result, in order that I might utilize the information in my capacity as an agent of the English secret service." This shows that Scotland Yard was "keeping tabs" on the proposed amalgamation and working it up. And yet, as may be guessed, the Irish Republican Brotherhood in Ireland were showing the same opposition to the Land League as the Clan-na-Gael of the United States, as gathered from the result of Le Caron's remarks on pages 126-7, where he says in his interview with J. J. O'Kelly, M. P.:—

"While we talked in this way O'Kelly complained bitterly of the opposition which the open or constitutional movement known as the Land League was still receiving from the Irish Republican Brotherhood or secret organization in Ireland, and he stoutly advocated coercion on the part of the directors of the American branch of the conspiracy in order to bring the Irish malcontents into line. * * * * * When he left, Mr. Parnell adopted the same line of complaint. * * * I was told detectives were watching us and that spies held a place in every corner (Lobby of the House of Commons). As I afterwards learnt, the statement was not without foundation, for every movement of myself and my companion, with details as regards time, was noted and duly reported to government officials within twenty-four hours. * * * He expressed a belief that D— could do more than any one else to bring about a clear understanding and alliance."

This is a lie; Parnell never wanted the alliance; it was on the alliance proposition the bitter fight was made, Parnell and Davitt

being denounced by the Clan leaders for not agreeing to the Clan leaders' proposition in that respect.

A letter sent him (Le Caron) by a Clan leader after returning from Ireland, whither he had gone, evidently, as inferred from himself, as a revolutionary envoy on a mission to the Irish constitutional leaders, to cement the "alliance," contains the following suggestive passage, and again shows the Clan opposition, page 134:

"They (the constitutional leaders) seem to misunderstand our dissatisfaction here. It is not their action in Ireland, but the action they allow their friends to take in their name here. There is little difference of opinion about the essential point, but we cannot tolerate the kind of thing begun in Buffalo. Please drop me a line.—Yours, &c., in haste."

Then he tells us how he interviewed several prominent Irish-American leaders of the Clan, and he seems to have carried out some plot of alliance, for he says, page 135: "They appeared fully to realize the importance of the situation and determined in the end that one of them should go (to Ireland.)

"I had now completed my part of the work and so, content with my labors, I returned home and wrote a full account of my proceedings to Mr. Anderson. * * * * I knew that I would learn everything in time, and I was quite content to wait. As I had anticipated, I did hear the result, and on no less authority than that of —— S—— himself. He informed me sometime later that the sanction of the executive body of the Clan-na-Gael, or V. C.,

HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THE BRINGING ABOUT OF AN UNDERSTANDING."

Let the reader note that this was what Le Caron worked for and informed Scotland Yard of, from his own testimony. S—— seemed to scent danger in the 'alliance' plan, for he (Le C.) makes him say, pages 136-7:

"I feel morally certain that the propositions I will make will be approved of. I for one am opposed to bringing up this matter openly at the coming convention. I shall most certainly object to Parnell or any of his friends compromising themselves by allowing such a course. The whole matter must be left to the Revolutionary Directory and the F. C. (Executive Body.) (As it will be seen later, this is exactly what happened. There was no public discussion of the proposal in open convention, but matters were satisfactorily arranged in the quiet caucuses of the responsible committees.) S——, continuing said, 'They (that is, the Parnellites) seem to misunderstand our dissatisfaction here. Our quarrel is not with their action in Ireland, but with the action they allow their friends here to take in their name. I know there is but little difference about essential points, but we cannot tolerate the kind of thing begun in Buffalo.'

"This reference to Buffalo dealt with some proceedings in connection with the first American Land League Convention of a few weeks previously, which had attracted a good deal of attention and comment at the time. The whole thing was nothing more or less than an attempt on the part of the clerical element to gain the controlling power in the League Councils to the exclusion of the Clan-na-Gael influence. Certain speeches had been made and action taken with this view, and although the result had not weakened them, THE CLAN-NA-GAEL LEADERS FELT VERY BITTER ON THE POINT."

See how he makes S—— admit the "disaffection," and as it were giving the idea, there was so very little difference in essentials between the Clan and the Land League. See how he says all was arranged in a nice secret session of the Executive Committee—that is one party to the alliance did all the "alliance" by itself; and so we gather from the above that the Clan didn't want any clerical influence in the Land League councils of the United States. Very good (?) grounds for "disaffection" indeed. Note the "bitter feeling."

And now the reader can judge of the honesty of the great mass

of the Clan, for Le Caron gives us in page 139 a resolution passed in a Clan convention of 1881. It has the true ring of honest men, who, conscientiously believing in physical force, sought no "entangling alliances" and didn't want to oppose the Land League, nor be bulldozed into opposing it:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that both branches of the S. E. (i. e., the Irish and American members of the Revolutionary Directory), in so far as they can give their time and energies to it, should devote themselves to the work of revolution; and if such bodies cannot give their approval to public movements that are intended to promote the political and social regeneration of Jsfmboe (Ireland) when they are supported by a large proportion of the Jsjti (Irish) people, THEY WILL AT LEAST REFRAIN FROM ANTAGONIZING THEM, AND THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE I. S. C. (THE IRISH REPUBLICAN BROTHERHOOD) AND THE V. C. (CLAN-NA-GAEL) SHOULD NOT ARBITRARILY BE PREVENTED FROM EXERCISING LIBERTY OF ACTION IN REGARD TO SUCH MOVEMENTS."

In the path of treachery which the Clan leaders seemed to have adopted, Le Caron being evidently a party to it, it is refreshing to find such a manly and healthy resolve coming from the convention of the general body.

CLAN RUINS THE LAND LEAGUE.

We will now see what was done on the quiet by the Clan Executive when the "alliance" could not be secured. They determined to capture the Land League Convention of 1881, and so prior to its assembling each Senior Guardian of the various "camps" all over the States received the following circular, page 150, and in that page, as in pages 151-2, Le Caron's comments are in evidence to show that things were running on the lines he had been working on:

"Private.
"For S. G. alone.

"Headquarters, K.,
"November 21, 1881.

"S. G. of D.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—It is the desire of the F. C. that as many members of the V. C. as can possibly attend the Irish National Convention at Chicago, November 30, 1881, will do so without entailing expense on the organization.

"You will therefore make every effort to get the members of the V. C. elected as delegates from any Irish society that may have an existence in your neighborhood, whether it be as representative of the Land League Club, the A. O. H., or any other organization.

"The F. C. particularly desires your presence as a delegate, if possible for you to attend as such.

"Fraternally yours,
"K. G. N. of the V. C."

"I thoroughly knew what this meant. Under the new regime there was to be no more of the "Buffalo business," and to prevent it things were to be done in a thoroughly practically manner. The members of the secret revolutionary organization were to capture the representation at the coming Land League Convention, to act united in the development of a policy of harmony with the Clan-na-Gael and to officer the future Executive in such a way as to prevent further misunderstanding. In order to do all this, the Clan-na-Gael men were to obtain election as League, or Ancient Order of Hibernian, delegates, the latter organization being a purely benevolent body, whose branches had largely affiliated with the League or open movement from the start. This was accordingly done; and thus it came about that, when I met my fellow delegates to the open Land League Convention of 1881, I found almost every second man a brother from the camps of the Clan-na-Gael.

"The whole scheme worked in the most perfect manner. On

arrival in Chicago each Clan-na-Gael man reported himself to the chief officer of the district to whom credentials were presented. Official intimation was then given as to what would happen, and each conspirator learned that, prior to the sessions of the convention, caucuses of the Brotherhood would be held in the hall of Camp 16, Twenty-second Street, Chicago. The usual precautions were taken, and admission only gained by passwords exchanged on each occasion. As the chairman at the first gathering humorously put it, "our object was to make things easy for the Land Leaguers, and to save them as much trouble as possible." At each meeting the plan of procedure at the coming session was decided upon."

Mark how the circular came to the S. G. (or President of each camp) and marked "private"—"for S. G. alone." The hearts of the Clans' members would not brook the conspiracy, and so the vile action was done cautionsly. With all Le Caron's supposed cunning he shows himself a dullard in this book, for to the most obtuse it is a clear exposition of the wretched system that England has adopted in trappping Irish patriots. How an ass of this kind could deceive brainy Irishmen can only be explained by their WANT OF ALERTNESS AND JUDICIOUS SUSPICION.

On page 154 the conspirator says:

"Eighteen hundred and eighty-three proved a very busy time with me. There was another Land League Convention, and altogether my time was pretty well occupied in obtaining information and passing it on to my chief. The year opened amidst rumors in the public press of the secret movement having captured the open organization of the League. Mr. Parnell himself had taken action previously, and in ways which were not understood or appreciated, and, as a consequence,

A PARTIAL BREACH HAD OCCURRED.

So strained were matters becoming that in February it was announced that both Mr. Parneil and Egan would come to

America in April for the purpose of discussing the whole situation and fixing up some new mode of operations for the future, which, while equally effective as regards joint working, would not impair Mr. Parnell's usefulness. Many weeks, however, had not passed ere the fight between the clerical and revolutionary elements in the States BEGAN TO WAX EXCEEDINGLY HOT, ETC., ETC."

The fight was simply between the constitutional leaders and the Clan-na-Gael, because the "alliance" had not taken place. But the Clan leaders were not without resource, for we find the following passage in page 155:

"The public convention of the Land League henceforth to be known as the National Land League of America, took place at Philadelphia on the 26th of April, 1883, and following days. The same plan of campaign as had been developed in 1881 was put in force by the Clan-na-Gael. A secret circular was issued instructing the camps to send delegates, and these delegates when assembled in Philadelphia pursued the same policy in their caucus gatherings. The whole thing worked like an exquisite piece of mechanism, and produced the most satisfactory results for the Clan leaders. Of course I was a delegate, and of course I attended all the secret caucuses."

At this convention the Land League was dissolved by the Clan majority of delegates, and a new organization (with the Clan again in full control of the convention) declared. Le Caron gives this report to his "Camp of the Clans." Analyze it well,—pages 157-8-9:

"The various reports were read and routine business transacted. These developed that the Land League had not increased in members, but, on the contrary, had decreased during the past year; that a majority of the patriots of America had become tired of giving their earnings for 'Simon Pure agitation;' of the 900 branches existing a year ago, 105 had disbanded, and 298 had failed to report. The total receipts for the past year from all sources were 79,138 dollars, 40 cents, and the disbursements 74.-

123 dollars, 40 cents, leaving on hand a balance of 4,915 dollars.

"There was an evident desire upon the part of clerical delegates and lady Land Leaguers (who evidenced a fear of amalgamating with dynamiters and secret society Revolutionists) to retain the organization intact, dropping the word land, adopting the platform of the Dublin Convention of last October, electing their officers for the ensuing year calling themselves the National League, and adjourning sine die. The policy received an able but unscrupulous supporter in Miles O'Brien of New York, a renegade member of the V. C., who exhibited the last circular of instructions from the F. C. to a number of priests to show them how they were to be manipulated by the terrible Clan-na-Gaels. Had this source been successful it would have prevented union, it would have continued the various factions, and the formidable front presented today of all the societies of the country pledged upon one platform to work united with one object in view would never have been achieved.

"Brother Brown of St. Louis moved a substitute for all resolutions to declare the Land League dissolved after adjournment of this Convention, and the delegates to attend the National Convention the next day. This eventually was practically carried by a large majority.

* * * * *

"Again the V. C. showed the work of its second conference of Wednesday night, the proceedings being opened by Brother Sullivan, and Brother Dorney being unanimously elected temporary presiding officer, the temporary secretaries being Brothers Roach of Troy, Brown of St. Louis, Hines of Buffalo, and Gleason of Cleveland. The appointment of the Committee on Credentials, after the opening speeches, constituted the first work on hand, and here again the perfect organization of the V. C. developed itself; and the first breeze created by the Rossa-Dunne faction, who moved an amendment that each society have a member upon the Committee on Credentials, was promptly voted down. Rossa

presented his credentials as a member of the National Party of New York, but was admitted only upon a press ticket.

"A permanent organization was effected in the afternoon by the unanimous election of Brother Foran of Cleveland as presiding officer. The various committees being appointed, the Convention adjourned till Friday morning, the result of the day's work showing that the V. C. were in the majority everywhere; that by every action it was desired to follow out the instructions of Mr. Parnell as cabled to the Convention on that day; and at least, so far as the public policy was concerned, to drop all nitroglycerine methods of procedure, and to perfect the union of the united societies of the country and Canada upon one platform, for the purpose of harmoniously and unitedly giving to those, and their number is legon, who believe in force alone, the supreme satisfaction of knowing that the machinery of the cause is now under the control and direction of their comrades, who believe, as they do, that dynamite, or any other species of warfare that can be devised is perfectly legitimate, so long as it can be made effective, and accomplish results permanent and tangible."

Mark the vile epithets he flings at Miles O'Brien for fighting against Le Caron's dynamite conspiracy and treachery. Now bear in mind that this is Le Caron's report to his Clan-na-Gael Camp after attending a Land League Convention. See how the League fell off when it became palsied through the Clan conspiracy. See how he calls the constitutionalists "Clericals and Lady Leaguers. His own report of the decay of the Land League shows how it fell sadly apart, yet he gloats over the supposed "formidable front." See how he makes believe that Parnell and the Clan are working in harmony (despite the proof of friction); how the arch-conspirator manufactures evidence that he has been after; how he conveys the idea that Parnell is a dynamiter, and how the spy encourages dynamite..

This report is exactly in line with the incriminating, but otherwise meaningless, and false circulars printed by the Clan execu-

tive proving the collusion between Scotland Yard and the executive beyond a doubt.

To show how important it was for Scotland Yard to know that there was a connection between the constitutional movement and the Clan, he speaks of poor, unfortunate Dr. Cronin as follows, page 164:

"It was at this time that the policy of dynamite had been decided upon, and the campaign against English government buildings and persons was being iaugurated. Cronin was an ardent advocate of the policy; and, owing to his scientific attainments, he was appointed as chief instructor in the use and handling of explosives, acting all the time, be it marked, as the President of the Banner League (or Chicago branch of the Land League) as well. In fact, he held the position of President of the Land League branch down to the year 1888."

So the dynamite policy had been decided upon at the very time when it was most dangerous for the Irish constitutional leaders to have any connection with it—useful for the British intrigue.

On pages 166-7 he emphasizes the connection between the secret element and the constitutional movement. Hear him:

"The next matter of public importance in which I was interested was the Boston Convention of the Irish National League of America, which took place in the Faneuil Hall, Boston, on the 13th and following days of August. Of course I went in my dual capacity as League delegate and Revolutionary official. The same plan of campaign was practiced with the same successful results. Alexander Sullivan was named for re-election as President. He, however, declined, and made way for Patrick Egan. Egan, after some refusal on the ground that the British government probably knew of his connection with the secret movement, and that

HIS TAKING OFFICE MIGHT COMPROMISE MR. PARNELL,

eventually agreed, and so he took the chair vacated by Sullivan."

Here we find Egan saw danger to Parnell in the simple fact of his (Egan's) being president of the open movement, when there was probability that England knew of his connction with the secret movement. Whether the spy speaks truth or not, he illustrates the treachery of the "alliance" by this sentence alone.

Speaking of the Convention of the open movement in 1885, he says (page 173):

"Mr. Parnell appeared to have a distinct claim upon Irish-American indulgence, and particular pains were taken to prevent anything happening which might unfairly affect his position in any way. So complaisant were "the men beyond the sea" in America, that the open convention called for January, 1886, was postponed in order that Mr. Parnell might be present. The gathering eventually took place in the month of August, 1886, but there was no Parnell, his place being taken by no less than four of the leading Parnellites from the English side—Messrs. Michael Davitt, John E. Redmond, M. P., John Deasy, M. P., and William O'Brien, M. P. I was myself a delegate, attended the secret caucuses and

ASSISTED IN DEVELOPING AFFAIRS

in the interests of the conspirators.

* * * * *

"By a circular issued on the eve of the convention, it was ordered that each Senior Guardian should secure proxies for all branches of the National League in his vicinity unable to send delegates to the open convention, and immediately forward such proxies to Patrick Egan. Here was a clear confession of the close connection between the two movements—open and secret—existing in the person of the present United States minister to Chili; the then President of the Irish National League of America."

Admitting that Egan might have belonged to the Clan at the time, "here is a clear confession" by Le Caron that his (Le Car-

on's) work had borne fruit. See how the idiot spy condemns, as it were, the fruits of his own efforts, self-confessed as we have seen. And that ass was never found out by "confiding Irishmen."

Evidence that the Clan and the open organization were affiliated was not however forthcoming, and so it will be interesting to note the manufactured evidence sent out by the secret executive whoever they were. Hear him in page 180:

"The close of the year 1885 brought the announcement of Mr. Gladstone's conversion to Home Rule, and the termination of the Dynamite Campaign for the time being. How the political situation was viewed at this period can best be represented by the following extracts from a secret circular of the Clan-na-Gael, or United Brotherhood, issued two days before Christmas:

" 'The operations so far conducted, have compelled the enemy to recognize the Constitutional party, and we are now in a fair way to reap the benefits and results of the heroic work of the members of the U. S. (United Brotherhood). . . . We expect to resume active operations after the present exigencies of the Constitutional party are passed. We have purposely and advisedly abstained from doing anything likely to embarass them during the crisis of the elections. It is to be hoped that during these operations, members will abstain from making inquiries or discussing the subject in any manner, for we cannot say when we undertake to answer members, but that at the same time we are answering the inquiries of our enemy, furnishing important information, and giving important clews to detect and suppress our work. The mystery of an unknown power striking in the dark, always able to avoid detection, is far more terrible than the damage afflicted. We caution you, therefore, above all things, to be silent; but if compelled to speak, disavow all knowledge, or better still, mislead all inquiries. In the mean time we wish to impress on you the necessity of mutual FORBEARANCE AND FAITH.' "

Faith as a virtue would seem to be a very necessary principle

to the treasury's weal and the effective working of the Clan executive's plans.

Study that circular well and in it you will see the cloven foot of Scotland Yard Dictation. Truly was Le Caron's policy succeeding. The work he boasted he set himself to do (page 135) was being done as nearly as the secret executive of the Clan could do it. No alliance being still in view we find Le Caron produce more evidence from the secret gents, page 181:

"The secret convention of the Revolutionary organization met in due course, in August, 1886, but as I was not a delegate, I had no personal knowledge of what took place. The spirit of the time, however, was very fairly reflected in some circulars, issued prior to its assembly, from which I take the following extracts:

" 'The indications all point to the conclusion that the measure of Home Rule offered will be emasculated and pared down in such a way as to make it unacceptable

TO THOSE FOR WHOM IT IS INTENDED.

We are now preparing for those contingencies, and the estimates for the cost of making a rigorous campaign with "delusion" (dynamite) will absorb more funds than are at present available from the prescribed percentage. The Executive, therefore, in order to meet the great outlay necessary at this crisis, take this occasion to request that, in addition to the usual percentage, each camp at once, by a vote of the camp, send on such additional funds as they may deem proper. . . . It is suggested that in voting this fund it be credited in forwarding it entirely to "delusion" (dynamite.) In the meantime, in the next few months, important operations are likely to take place; you are cautioned to use every device to mislead those engaged in tracing our operations.' "

This is all that a band of Orangemen masquerading as Irish revolutionists could do to connect their bluff dynamite policy with the Irish party, a party they fought bitterly and whose auxiliary movement on this side of the water they destroyed.

"We have some members who are opposed to the active operations of the last few years, and who, therefore, favor a more enlarged representation. It would seem to us that the operations objected to are fully vindicated by the concessions wrung thereby from England.

"The silent secret warfare has been productive of results. It would be well, therefore, to instruct your delegates as to your wishes on those points fully and clearly. Having instructed your delegates which of these policies you wish to pursue, the details will not be difficult. It would be well, therefore, to put your instructions to your delegates in one of the following general terms, with such alterations as you deem proper:

"Viz., 'Our delegate is instructed to favor an active secret policy, similar to recent operations;' or, in the alternative of favoring a return to open insurrectionary operations as follows:

"Viz., 'Our delegate is instructed to favor the planting of ploughs (distribution of arms) and an open insurrectionary movement.'

"There can be no insinuations of misrepresentation, and whatever policy is adopted will have the overwhelming support of the organization at its back. It will be well, also, to embody such changes as are desirable in the constitution in your instructions. It is to be hoped that, in the short time intervening between this and the Convention, you will fully, wisely, and carefully consider the policy of the future, and the character, intelligence, and experience of your delegates. . . .

"The active operations of the U. S. (United Brotherhood) have brought about the probable granting of Home Rule. It is desirable that delegates to the National Convention shall be fully informed of your desire to follow up these operations on the same lines, or whether you desire to fall back on the old work of putting ploughs in. The latter course does not seem to us fruitful of results or practical. The former policy has been vindicated by great destruction with little loss to us. It is for the Convention to decide, however, what the future policy shall be."

Now mark, that the Home Rule movement which they fought on the grounds of its being constitutional, they are supposed to be now the only supporters of, and those for whom the Home Rule bill is intended, evidently are themselves—the secret executive—for the first sentence is evidently clear on that, viz.; "The indications all point to the conclusion that the measure of Home Rule offered will be emasculated and pared down in such a way as to make it unacceptable to those for whom it is intended." It doesn't say about its being unacceptable to the Irish people or M. P.'s, and the reader can easily discern in the rest of the circular that the executive of the Clan takes entire credit for the Home Rule bill, therefore Home Rule is run by dynamite and all the awful and mysterious things mentioned in this secret circular, the very thing that Scotland Yard wanted. But as more incriminating resolutions were necessary we find on page 183 the top notch evidence which Le Caron produced to damage Parnell when Parnell sued the London Times. He also produced all the testimony herein quoted, which was never denied:

"What, however, was perhaps the most important proceeding of all at this convention of the Revolutionists was the passage of the following resolution (Convention of 1886):

" 'RESOLVED, THAT WE MAINTAIN THE SAME RELATIONS IN THE FUTURE TO OPEN SOCIETIES, WORKING FOR THE SAME PURPOSE AS OURSELVES, THAT WE HAVE IN THE PAST.'

"If further proof were wanted beyond that already given of the 'understand' which existed between the open and secret organizations, it could not be supplied in a more emphatic manner than this."

Now look into the resolution. This was the final act in the attempt to connect the Clan-na-Gael with the open movement. Le Caron says no greater proof could be given. That resolve was a lie. It looked very innocent, no doubt, to the delegates assembled. It breathed as it were of good will, but it gives you

plainly to understand that there was an alliance with the constitutional movement, and one which had continued during the past and would continue for the future. It was short and sweet, and no doubt had no bother in being rushed through without being analyzed by the bulk of the delegates present. It was Le Caron's tit-bit, and when alliance had then truly failed forever, the conspirators made up their minds to ally themselves (on paper) to the people they fought so bitterly, and not that alone, but CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN ALLIED TO THEM IN THE PAST.

All that Scotland Yard could do was done, and so we find in the spy's book that this is the last reference made by the secret executive of the Clan to connect the dynamiters with the Home Rule party of Ireland. Where was the sense in that resolution if not to make evidence? Devoid of its merit as evidence against Parnell it seems the silliest burlesque in the light of the bitter fight, engineered by the Clan conspirators against the open movement. Le Caron shows how valuable that resolution was to him, in his comment on it as above. Mark his words: "If further proof were wanted beyond that already given of the understanding which existed between the open and secret organizations, it could not be supplied in a more complete manner than this." That was the finishing blow. It was the last and most wicked, and shows the cloven foot only too plainly. In England's interest the spy should never have written that book. We have often read how the English government had gone to work to manufacture evidence against Irishmen, and we have read of jury packing, so as to admit of no avenue of escape, but the strangest thing that ever has been recorded in Irish history is the evidence that he unconsciously gives that THE CLAN-NA-GAEL DIRECTORS WERE PURSUING A POLICY, AND WERE MANUFACTURING EVIDENCE THAT COULD ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS BEING THE OUTCOME OF THE EFFORTS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. FURTHER, WE HAVE THE PLAIN EVIDENCE FROM

THE SPY'S OWN ADMISSION THAT IT ACTUALLY WAS SO.

Le Caron doesn't wish that this interpretation should be given for it would simply damn him and Scotland Yard forever. Such interpretation would nullify the very idea he wants to convey. The depth of his falsehood and cunning proves the truth. We have seen him go across the water, interview Irish leaders on a proposed alliance without result. We have seen him when he returned here, he worked up the alliance, and we have seen the bitter feeling existing because there was no alliance; how the Clan directors then went to work, broke up the Land League in the States and formed a new organization, in control of the Clan, supposed to be in alliance with Parnell; then print circulars conveying the declarations of alliance with Home Rule movement and leaders and their willingness (?) to do all that Parnell asked them, as though he was their leader, adopting at the same time the most horrible and blood-curdling breathings of dynamite! All that possibly could be done by English agents in complete charge of the Clan was done. The spy and the clan executive were making the evidence, and we see that he used it for the London Times. Is there any mistaking the fact?

WHAT DYNAMITE DID DO.

And now let us see what dynamite did really do for Ireland and Irishmen. Here is the record of it as given by the spy. It is correct enough for all practical purposes; page 181:

"So, for the time, in deference to 'the exigencies of the Constitutional party,' the Dynamite Campaign was brought to a close, leaving as its record little or no damage to the enemy, but no less than twenty-five of the unfortunate instruments in prison, sixteen undergoing life sentences, two, sentences of twenty years' penal servitude, and seven sentences of seven years each. Of course some of these prisoners are not men from the American

side. In many cases those coming from America picked up colleagues in England, and, unfortunately for these latter, the knowledge which the local police possessed proved disastrous to them."

The reader can find between the lines the explanation of such disastrous record. No harm done to England, but sincere men's lives wrecked. England simply bossed the job.

SUCCESS OF THE MARTYR DODGE.

To suspect the spy during his quarter of a century in the Irish revolutionary movement was to get yourself very much disliked and make a martyr of Le Caron, instance:

"Before continuing my narrative, I will stop to relate one of the few cases in which I was forced into a very narrow place, and faced with the near possibility of complete exposure. The incident is useful as illustrating the dangers by which I was surrounded, and the requirements of the position in which I was placed. At a council of war held in Troy House, Troy, New York, in the month of November, 1868, I came in contact with John Roche, well known as one of the shining lights of Irish nationality in that city. Roche was one of those hypercritical and over-suspicious individuals who were constantly recognizing British detectives in every stranger whom they met. He had been, I discovered, originally a resident of Montreal, and as I had been instructed by O'Neill to visit and study the enemy's country, I indicated to Roche my desire of ascertaining the names of a few reliable brothers whom I could visit. The truth was that the Canadian government were at this time particularly anxious to find out the extent of the organization which they knew existed in several of their large cities, notably Montreal, Kingston and Toronto; and I thought this a good opportunity of getting some useful hints.

"Roche furnished me with the names of several leading members. Unluckily for me, I foolishly wrote the particulars down

in a note book in his presence. The act, in his opinion, was a suspicious one. He watched me closely, and evidently conceived the idea that my patriotism was of a very incautious character, if not worse. On the eighth of the following month, at the annual convention held in the Masonic Hall, Philadelphia, to which he was a delegate, I found his suspicions solidified in the form of a set of charges against me, imputing carelessness, dangerous conduct and suspicious acts. My friends, and they were legion, together with myself, indignantly denied the allegations, and virtuously demanded an inquiry, which was granted, and a committee was appointed to lay the charges. Roche was duly heard, injured innocence was largely en evidence on my part, and very quickly a unanimous verdict was reported back to the Convention, asserting that the charges were scandalous and without the slightest foundation, it being fully demonstrated by the following letter that I was authorized to visit and acquaint myself with the other side, as I represented to Roche:

" 'Headquarters Fenian Brotherhood,
" 'No. 10 West Fourth Street,
" 'New York, October 23, 1868.

" 'P. O. Box 5141.
" 'Lieut.-Col. Henry Le Caron, A. A. G., F. B.,
" 'Care of Capt. T. O'Hagan,
" 'Ogdensburg, N. Y.

" 'Dear Sir and Brother,—Yours of the 20th and 21st came duly to hand and are perfectly satisfactory.

" 'I think it better not to commence equalizing goods just yet; I will write you again on the matter.

" 'It would be highly beneficial to us for you to avail yourself of every opportunity to study the country on both sides of the line for future emergencies.

" 'Everything here is going on satisfactorily.

" 'Yours fraternally,
" 'JOHN O'NEILL,
" 'Pres. F. B.'

"I did not, however, deem it prudent to let matters rest even here, feeling that my ultimate success in the interests of the government depended upon absolute confidence on the part of the ruling powers. Accordingly I sat down and immediately wrote out my resignation as an officer of the Irish Republican Army, giving this want of confidence as my reason, and couching my letter in indignant terms. As I hoped and anticipated, my letter brought the following welcome response, which placed me on a surer footing than ever, and brought me into even more confidential relations with the head of the organization than I had hitherto enjoyed:

"'War Department, Fenian Brotherhood,
"'No. 10 West Fourth Street,
"'New York, December 29, 1868.

"'P. O. Box 5141.
"'Major H. Le Caron,
"'Box 1004,
"'Chicago, Ill.

"'Major,—Your letter tendering your resignation as an officer of the I. R. A. came duly to hand, but I delayed answering until such time as I could submit it to the President, who was out of town, as without his instructions I could give you nothing definite in reply. He now directs me to say that it is his wish you should remain an officer of the organization, and that if you require a leave of absence for a month or more, you can have it. He further says he hopes it will not be long before the opportunity you refer to may be granted. Your services have been thoroughly appreciated both by him and the officials of both Departments, civil and military, therefore you should not notice the innuendoes or taunts of parties who cannot value your services. If the officers of the organization who have been vilified and calumniated were to resign on that account, some of its best officers would not now be at their post. The "Patriot's meed is bitter;" they must bear with much, even from those who should be the first to defend and strengthen them.

" 'Personally, I would advise you to act on the suggestions of the President, and hope you will.

" 'The President will write you in a few days. Whatever course you may decide upon pursuing in this matter, you shall always carry with you the best wishes of

" 'Your friend and brother,

" 'J. WHITEHEAD BYRON,

" 'Col. and A. A. G., F. B.' "

Here he illustrates how he played the martyr dodge, succeeded to his satisfaction and got an honest and discerning man disliked. The Irish revolutionists never yet discovered, of themselves, any spy in their ranks. The English agents, called "informers," always came forth at the beck of their masters.

The word "informer" is misleading and throws discredit on the Irish name. The "informers" always entered the Irish ranks to betray. The word "spy" is the fitting one. England can get lots of "informers" in the the ranks of the Irish police. Were the sincere Irish revolutionists more alive to England's desire to know about and control their organizations, had they been less "confiding," the invasion of Canada might have had a different ending; but Le Caron held the chief position of importance in the Fenian ranks at the time, because there were not more men like Roche to perceive there was something evil in him. He commenced his Fenian life by organizing a Fenian circle (page 30), and (page 40) we find him a major and military organizer of that body, a great "spouter" for Ireland (in page 42) fooling the Irish, which he says he found easy. Page 44 we find him inspector-general of the Fenian forces, and went from time to time along the Canadian border locating arms and ammunition, handy for the Canadian authorities. The "confiding" Fenians were not ungrateful, for we find page 55:

"Constantly the recipient of compliments for the admirable way in which I discharged my duty, I was now promoted to the office of assistant adjutant-general, with the rank of colonel; and my new position enabled me not only to become possessed

of the originals of every document, plan and proposed campaign, etc., but also specimens of the Fenian army commissions and uniforms of the time, which of course I conveyed to the officials of the Canadian government."

No wonder the two invasions of Canada turned out so disastrously when England's agent held the most important position in the Fenian ranks. On both occasions the Fenians were ambushed and finally defeated, notwithstanding that their fighting material was such that 300 of them put the entire Queen's Own Regiment (1,000 men) of Toronto to ignominious flight, throwing away their arms in the mad rush to escape.

We also see that O'Neill started to aid the Reil rebellion, but was again betrayed by the spy, to suspect whom was a crime. A man with perception was dubbed "suspicious" and that ended the man with perception. Truly was Right on the Block and Wrong on the Throne. It remains to be seen how long it will take Irish revolutionists to realize the situation as it always existed and always will. "Would you sacrifice men's lives?" the words used by Le Caron that proved he had left valuable confederates in the Clan-na-Gael. None but a fool, a "dupe," a "confiding" jackass, needs the spy's testimony to feel assured that the spies are there; yet to suspect any of them means the Le Caron martyr dodge will be worked. THEY WILL NEVER CEASE TO BE FELT IN THE COUNCILS OF THE REVOLUTIONISTS, AND IT IS ABOUT TIME TO CONSIDER THE EXPEDIENCY OF SUCH ORGAIZATIONS ON THAT ACCOUNT AND OTHERS.

In the first place it is a crime against God, against society and against onesself to take an oath to

"OBEY WITHOUT MENTAL RESERVATION"

any man or men in a secret society whom you do not know. This the Clan requires of you. In the second place, it was never known that a secret organization of revolutionists ever accom-

plished their designs. The French revolution was a spontaneous uprising. The American revolution was the same. The revolutions of all history that even amounted to anything were open and spontaneous. The secret revolutionary organizations always failed. They were paralyzed by spies. Take an instance. The United Irishmen of '98 were the only organized body of revolutionists at that time in Ireland. Yet they never turned out. It was the open and sudden uprising of the unorganized masses under Father Murphy that inflicted any injury to England. The French Communists never were capable of any effect. Even the iron-clad secrecy of the Nihilists only serves to keep them deeper in their obscurity, while a horrible assassination once in a while simply marks their trail. No secret Irish revolutionary society ever did or ever will do any good for Ireland.

NECESSITY OF ENGLISH CONTROL IN THE CLAN.

Here is where we can see plainly the desire of Scotland Yard to get control in Irish revolutionary societies. Extracts from Le Caron, pages 92-3-4:

"My advent in the organization, though gratifying to a certain extent, did not satisfy me as fully as I wished. I wanted to know everything that took place on the inner side of the movement, and I found that, as one of the rank and file, I could really learn nothing. Accordingly, I set my wits to work to see how I could accomplish my desire of gaining such a position as would give me all I wanted.

* * * * *

"My status and extensive practice as a doctor permitted of my playing the role of the generous patriot, and there was no subscription list on which my name did not figure in some capacity as the patriot, political, charitable or social friend.

* * * * *

"Matters, indeed, were satisfactorily situated for me at every point. As senior guardian of the Braidwood camp, I was in re-

ceipt of every document issued from headquarters, and through me many of these found their way to Mr. Anderson on the English side of the water. My work in connection with these documents taxed all my powers of resource; and had it not been for the popular and trusted position which I held, I could have accomplished very little in regard to them."

Many Clan-na-Gael men have believed, and still believe, that the present U. S. government has been hypnotized by the British government, but relegate to oblivion the idea that England could hypnotize the Clan. In the above extracts we see how easily it could be done, and we need not be told how anxious the British government has always been that it should. By getting her agents in official capacities, she can do as she pleases with the organization. What a study for sincere men!

Such societies are just what England wants. Listen to Le Caron's eulogy of the Clan-na-Gael, pages 78-9:

"Little as I imagined it then, events were at this time shaping themselves to an end which, frequently attempted, had never yet been wholly accomplished by the aspiring leaders of the Irish in America. This was the bringing together of all Irishmen at home and abroad into one vast and perfect organization. The hour was coming, and with it the men. Born in comparative poverty and insignificance, but under an impressive name, the association now being formed, the great Clan-na-Gael of the future, was destined to be a powerful, rich, and far-reaching organization, healthy of limb and strong of hand,

FATED TO LEAVE ITS HEAVY MARK

upon the pages of this half-century's history. From small beginnings have come great results. Away back towards the end of the sixties there came into existence one of these temporal societies, an off-shoot of the permanent conspiracy know under the name 'Knights of the Inner Circle,' which was joined by many Irish conspirators, myself amongst the number. With its mem-

L. of C.

bers there became associated, in the latter end of 1869, some three hundred members of the 'Brian Boru' Circle of the Fenian Brotherhood in New York City, who, in consequence of a political quarrel over electioneering matters, seceded from their original body; and, by these men acting in concert with others under the name of the 'United Irishmen,' what were really the first camps of the Clan-na-Gael were established."

This eulogy of the Clan is worth noting, especially when we consider the sarcasm he flings at Davitt for being a Constitutional Land Leaguer, as follows:

"Enter Mr. Davitt once more on the American stage in quite a new role. Flushed with the triumphs of his recent proceedings in Ireland in the establishment of the Land League organization, and the position he had suddenly sprung into, he now came out as a Constitutionalist pure and simple. There were no more visits to Clan-na-Gael camps, for the time at least. All was open and above board. He had his fad; that fad was the Land League; and his fad was to win in the political race, hands down. No matter where he went, it was the same story."

There you see the sarcasm directed against the open movement leanings of Davitt, and you can therefore draw the conclusion that Le Caron's masters were of the same way of feeling. "He had his fad, and that fad was the Land League; and that fad was to win," etc., etc. Secret societies of revolutionists simply play into the hands of the government, and in the "case of the poor confiding Irishman, he is simply made to move and subscribe to order" by the agents of the British government, who cause scandals in the organizations to the disgrace of the Irish name, and so poor Ireland gets blamed all around for anything and everything, while Mephistopheles chuckles.

Surely when the secret executive body of the Clan made the word "delusion" do business for dynamite, there must have been mirth in Scotland Yard. Surely there was a depth of facetious meaning in the word, FOR "DELUSION" IT WAS IN EVERY SENSE.

It has been said that the Clan does much good in their celebrations, etc., in that they tend toward developing a healthy national sentiment. Le Caron did his part in that same work, and if that work hadn't been going on his occupation would be gone. The only effective and safe way to develop a healthy national sentiment is to read good books and papers. The Irish-American press is safest and surest. We are fortunate in this direction, for we have honest editors in the Irish-American press. Patrick Ford of the Irish World, the veteran worker; James Jeffrey Roche of the Pilot, John Finnerty of the Chicago Citizen, and others well known for their ability, sterling patriotism and honesty, are good patriotic guides, not always infallible, but men to be trusted. The writer is willing to have this pamphlet analyzed and criticized by them. If he has made any mistakes and they are proved to him, or any impartial tribunal, he will do all that a man can to undo the error. If he has done right, it is their duty as Irishmen, as honest men, before God and man, to see to it that this pamphlet will not be left unaided in its crusade against the paid agents of the British government, who today, as ever, permeate the ranks of the Irish Revolutionists. It is their duty towards the sincere men who enter the revolutionary ranks. The Clan-na-Gael has contained in its ranks the very purest, most devoted, self-sacrificing and patriotic Irishmen. This I positively know; but the poison of the spy is injected into the body politic, hence all the failures, the disasters, aye, the sacrificing of the very best Irishmen, and the ruin of the Irish cause, and hence the scandals that have been recorded.

A member of the Clan-na-Gael who goes to Ireland is known as such the moment he lands at his destination. If, therefore, a member of the Clan should start for Ireland, let him first resign, if only temporarily, because if times are troublous there, the authorities are very liable to arrest him on some other charge and keep him in jail till they are satisfied he can do no harm.

He is always asked on landing, by a policeman, what is his name, occupation, age, and destination in Ireland. Do Irishmen

know why this information is wanted? Well, they may have an idea when they know this, that the facts are at at once sent to Dublin Castle, and if the traveler belongs to the Clan-na-Gael his name is found "on the list." He is then watched closely.

The writer has it from the brother of a Scotland Yard ex-detective—an Irishman—that every "dangerous" revolutionist who crossed from the States to the other side was "spotted" at once. He also stated that one of Scotland Yard's systems is to have

DETECTIVES SHADOW DETECTIVES,

and that many women are employed in this work.

The black-masked treachery that suggested the "planting of ploughs," and the subscriptions for "delusion," in printed circulars, to be used against the constitutional movement, when England had no trouble on her hands but the Irish leaders, must be distinctly evident to any person outside of an insane asylum, especially whe we consider that during the heroic struggle of the Boers there is nothing to show that the Clan executive gave them any assistance whatever. England had been well nigh crippled, the expected "difficulty" had arrived, but the Clan was simply looking on. No talk of "ploughs" or "delusion." Oh no, the times were too serious. Not even an invitation to Kruger "to see us." The United Irish League branches were left to do that, and behold, even as this pamphlet is being concluded, the news comes to hand that the edict has gone forth to the various Clan "camps" that John Redmond and the United Irish League must receive no support from any member of the Clan-na-Gael. John Redmond was the darling of the Clan while he held out against the majority of his countrymen; at the Clan leaders' beck and nod, he refused to consider a proposition to unite the Irish party. He was promised the Clan's untiring support on the disunion basis. Now that he has wisely and patriotically joined with his old colleagues and the United Irish League, he and the League are outlawed by the Clan directors and by Dublin Castle. It

remains to be seen whether the body of the Clan-na-Gael will stand this, or whether they will not pass a rebuking resolution as they did in the convention of 1881 for the same treachery. The cases are exactly similar in their deadly poison to the Irish cause. But should the body of the Clan-na-Gael be content with resolutions? Never. Let THE MEN IN THE CLAN FIND OUT WHAT AND WHOM THEY MUST FIGHT.

A word to the wise is sufficient, and it is the solemn duty of the Irish-American press to send out that word over the earth, to save manly men from being the dupes of the Le Carons.

A WORD ON THE CRONIN MURDER.

It has often been said that the murder of poor Dr. Cronin could be traced to British intrigue, and we will let Le Caron tell what he will about him. In page 166 he says:

"Cronin, filled with fury, returned to his camp and made a series of most sweeping charges against the Triangle. In return charges were preferred against him for being a traitor, liar, etc. A trial committee, of which I was one, was appointed, and by it Cronin was promptly found guilty and formally expelled. I voted, as I always did, on the side of the winning party."

Here we find a British agent voting to expel Dr. Cronin, but the reasons for so doing, which he gives, will not hold water, for he says in pages 191-2:

"At the time I left for Europe, the trial committee had adjourned, and Cronin was back in Chicago. The Executive had refused to sustain the action of the trial committee by a majority of one, and there the affair stood. But Cronin would not let well enough alone. He had been talking very plainly, and denouncing Sullivan right and left. I figured in this trial by furnishing Sullivan with affidavits for his defence. Cronin afterwards charged Sullivan with getting me admitted into the organization, and with putting me into a position of trust. This did not help matters, and altogether Cronin proved himself to be a

very dangerous man in the eyes of Sullivan. Doubtless he possessed much information, the publication of which would damn Sullivan forever. What followed is a matter of recent inquiry. Cronin was foully murdered."

This shows Cronin's hostility to Le Caron, for reasons not given by the spy Why doesn't the spy give them? We see him furnishing material for the defence of Cronin's alleged opponent, of whom he says, in page 48

"From this time onward, for a period of twenty years, I used the man as my dupe. Feeding his vanity, assisting his ambition, helping him in the hundred and one ways in which it was possible for me to do, I gained his friendship and his confidence to such an extent, that no man in the whole course of my career in the secret service proved a more reliable, albeit an unconscious, ally than he."

It will be remembered that Alexander Sullivan was adjudged innocent of Cronin's murder, and the above extracts might have played an important part were they available in the Cronin murder trial. He "used Sullivan as a dupe." Cronin was hostile to Le Caron for reasons not assigned. Cronin "doubtless possessed much information," nature not given. It is easy to perceive that "Cronin possessed much information, the publication of which would damn" Le Caron. He keeps the reasons for Cronin's hostility to him (L. C.) a profound secret.

CAUTION TO THE A. O. H.

The recent and well-known energy of the Clan-na-Gael to permeate the A. O. H. should be well looked after The military section of the A. O. H. is not forgotten by the officials of Scotland Yard or Clan officials, and from all the writer can learn it will not take long from present appearances to place the A. O. H. in the grasp of the same power that usurped and disrupted the Land League. Let all A. O. H. men now judge of the truth of this assertion, and let them act at once on a prudent course to pursue.

The immense amount of damage done in Irish societies by this class of British mercenaries will doubtless never be known. A. O. H. men may think that because they are not conscious of immediate danger, there is no need to be on guard. The best guide to the future is the past, and the fate of the 900 branches of the Land League may serve as a warning. But the A. O. H. doesn't have to go outside its own history; the split that existed among them up to recent years should caution them, and if statements made by a veteran New York A. O. H. member to the writer were made public, the fact could be easily guessed ttha the celebrated split in the A. O. H. was primarily due to the influence that has brought disgrace, wreck and ruin on all movements thoroughly Irish. The writer has faith, however, in the faithful, prudent and conservative guidance of the spiritual directors, and especially the chief chaplain of the A. O. H., and were it not that such men have a great moral influence in the order it might have become long ere this the victim and plaything of British agents. While the clergy rule, the order will be comparatively safe; but the enemy is untiring and only awaits his chance.

"The atrocious system of paid spies which England has in full operation in this country is strikingly illustrated by this man Le Caron's career."—John Boyle O'Reilly, Boston Herald, Feb. 9, 1889.

"He (Le Caron) obviously wants to show that he has accomplished what he was paid by the British Government for doing. This class of beings always play an important part in all Irish political trials."—Collector John E. Fitzgerald, Boston Herald, Feb. 9, 1889.

1901

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 021 356 801 2